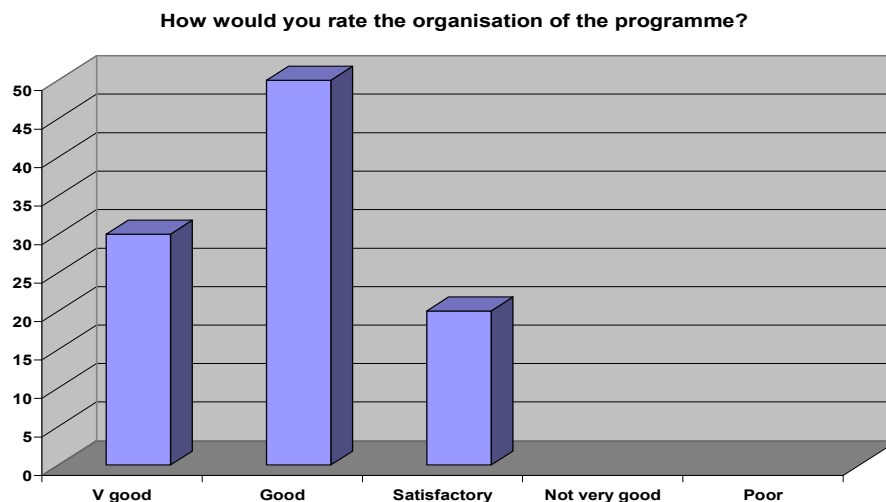


HUMAK, Tartu and Bedfordshire Common Intensive Study Programme
Helsinki, January - February 2008

Programme Evaluation *



Representative comments:

There were some problems getting information about the programme and accommodation (Estonian student)

Some parts of the programme were organised at a good level, some parts were not. For example, there were no activities for getting to know each other better in the first days. Accommodation and food - compared to the last year Estonian programme, it was surprising (Estonian student)

I liked it but it could have been better (Estonian student)

The programme was really well organised (Finnish student)

The Finnish students weren't so well taken care of ... It would have been nice to stay and live in the same place as the other students, not in a flat far from the city (Finnish student)

Food was very good (English student)

Better hotel - would have been willing to pay supplement (English student)

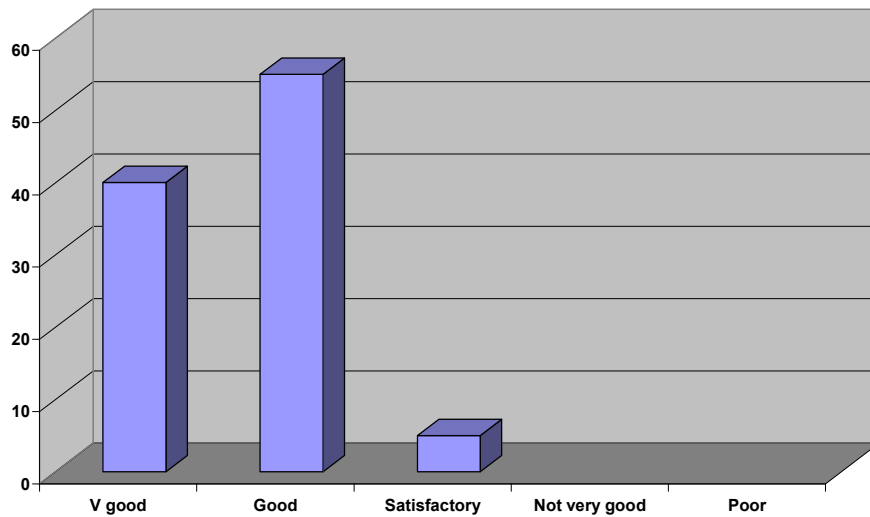
Well organised. Good use of IT to make arrangements (English student)

Very professional ... Friendly staff, great welcome too (English student)

Orientation good - with name badges and map of accommodation. Detailed programme (English student)

* All charts show responses in percentages

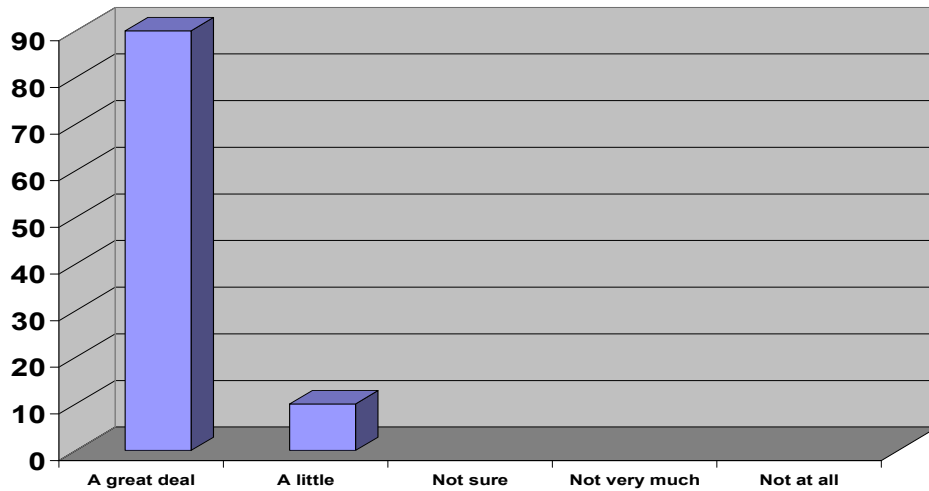
How would you rate the content of the programme?



Representative comments:

There were very good sessions from the side of the Finnish - like the presentation from the police, social worker, mediation etc (Estonian student)
I think that there should have been more Estonian things ... maybe next time (Estonian student)
The time devoted [to each country] should have been divided more equally (Estonian student)
The content was really interesting and rewarding (Finnish student)
A good range of topics and speakers. I was particularly interested in the victim support session (English student)
Some excellent speakers - wide variety of expertise (English student)
Lecture content was very good (English student)
Some inevitable biases. It took several days before I was able to assess these from a Finnish / Estonian perspective (English student)
Thorough and wide ranging (English student)
As a whole, the programme was intense, thorough, detailed and provided theoretical and practical knowledge. I found meeting practitioners in the field most valuable (English student)

Did the programme improve your knowledge of youth justice and child welfare systems in the other two countries?



Representative comments:

The visits to the Finnish institutions and the lectures by the practitioners were particularly interesting (Estonian student)

I have got a lot of information about the systems of youth justice and child welfare in Finland and the UK (Estonian student)

I got a lot of important information on how the different systems work (Finnish student)

I didn't have any knowledge of this subject before the course (Finnish student)

More in depth discussions informally with Estonian and Finnish students helped to enhance / enrich knowledge (English student)

Seeing the various practitioners at work in their institutions was a great way to bring the lecture content to life (English student)

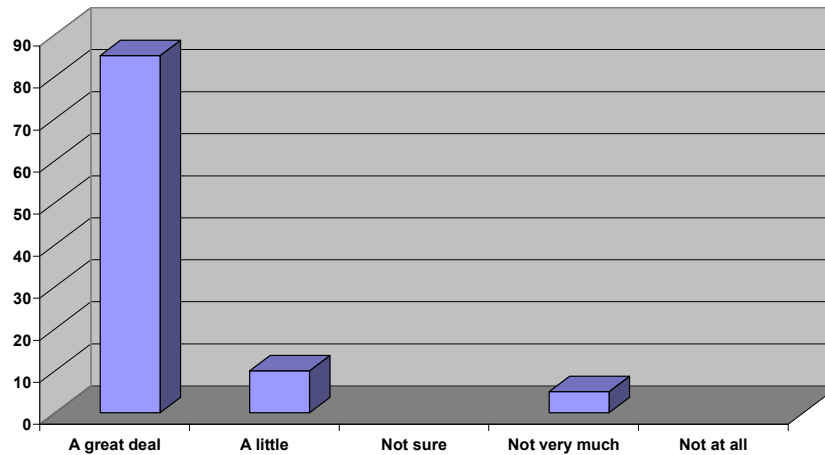
Quite a lot. However would like to learn more (English student)

I have a much better understanding now and it has helped me to reflect better on the system in the UK. It felt at times as if there could have been more information about Estonia (English student)

I found the content on Finland extensive and very interesting, useful for practice in the UK. I would have enjoyed hearing more about Estonia (English student)

Significant learning that will assist me in my work with the government developing criminal justice policy (English student)

Did the programme help you to think critically about your own youth justice or child welfare system?



Representative comments:

The Estonian system is quite similar to the Finnish system (Estonian student)

I found out that there are much more positive things about the Estonian system than I thought beforehand (Estonian student)

I was rather critical about our system beforehand (Estonian student)

Many good ideas about how to improve our system (Estonian student)

Before this course I thought our system was perfect but actually there is much room for improvement (Finnish student)

We had a lot of society critical lectures (Finnish student)

A very useful week (English student)

Certainly because students from the other countries ask questions which make you reflect from a different perspective (English student)

Thinking in terms of what could be improved but also a few things we do well (English student)

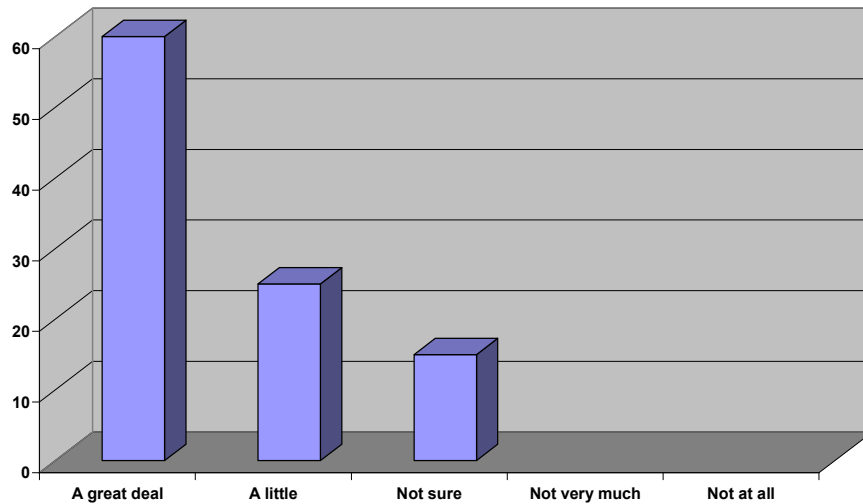
Highlighted just how far we away from a welfare model we are in the UK (English student)

As a group we often discussed how the information about the structure and culture of the other two countries would be similar, different or even plausible in the UK. The case studies were a great way to do this (English student)

The main message for me is the Finnish system's central ethos of what's best for the child - an absolute must for my practice (English student)

Very much - a shift in perspective (English student)

Was the programme useful and relevant for your own studies?



Representative comments:

Topics which concern my research area were discussed (media and youth justice) though Jock Young couldn't come unfortunately (Estonian student)

There was something about evaluating the prevention work which is my research theme so it was useful And also the police information (Estonian student)

Yes. Because in future I'm going to work with youth and civic activities (Finnish student)

Quite a lot - for my studies in general and my volunteering project (English student)

Yes - my criminology studies are transnational comparative research and theory so these sessions are very valuable (English student)

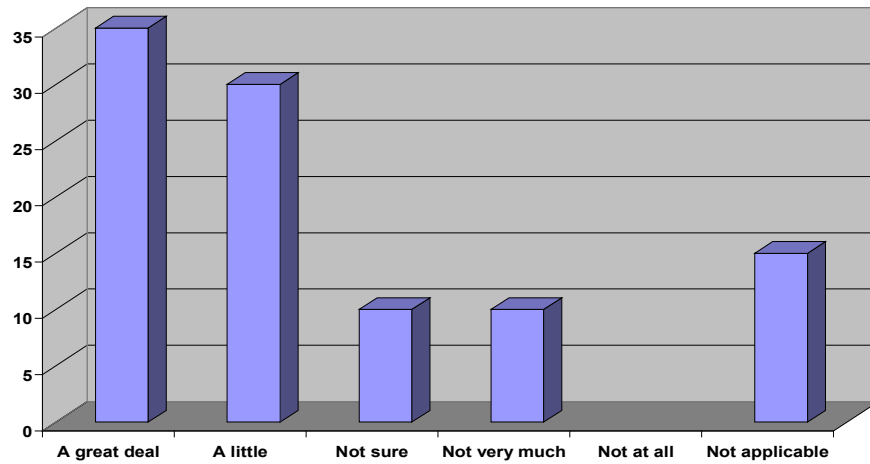
Opportunity to visit a secondary school in Helsinki and speak to ... special educational teacher. Very enlightening (English student)

I was able to consider how the parents of young offenders are viewed, held accountable, supported and involved within the different youth justice systems (English students)

My area of research is school based prevention so I especially enjoyed visiting the youth house and the school (English student)

From a wider criminological perspective it was useful but there was limited information on my specific area of study (English student)

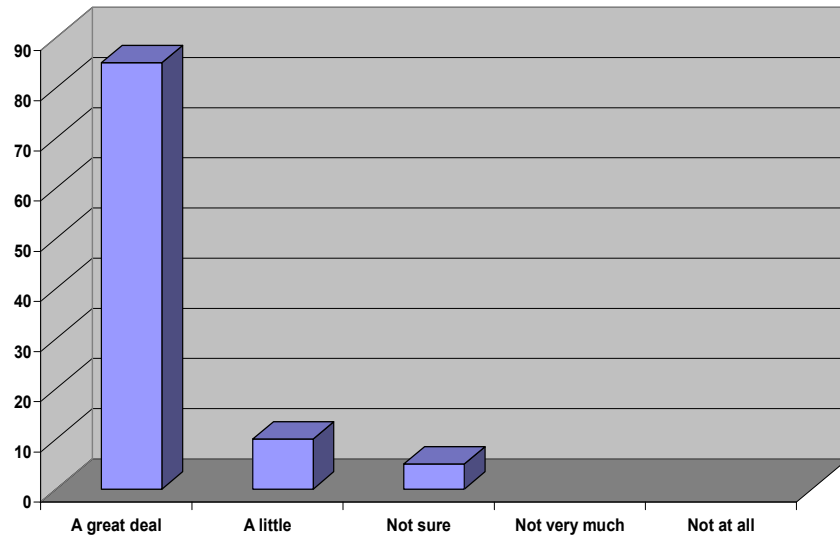
Was the programme useful and relevant for your own work with young people (if applicable)



Representative comments:

- The British system was interesting and I got some good ideas (Estonian student)
- It's good to know how similar situations are handled by professionals in different countries as we can then improve our practice and expand the services we offer (English student)
- The child centred approach in Finland (English student)
- All of it was relevant really (English student)
- Hope so (English student)

To what extent was learning helped by the programme being a transnational one?



Representative comments:

Comparison is the best way to find out what parts of our own system need improving. Just reading the books is not that interesting or accurate (Estonian student)

Much to take away from Finland for example (Estonian student)

It's always interesting to find how things are working elsewhere (Estonian student)

It was essential that the programme was transnational. It assisted greatly with the comparative aspect of the work (English student)

Essential - would be good to have some more partners (Italy, Spain, Portugal, Greece) (English student)

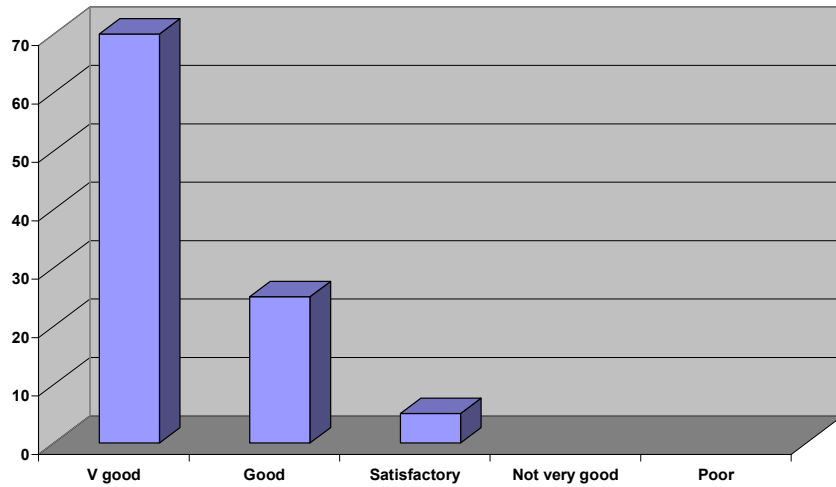
Very (and surprisingly) useful. It forced clarity of expression and opinion therefore avoiding the ambiguity that UK is good at (English student)

It highlights why the systems are different and discussing this with practitioners from those countries gives the best in depth content and context (English student)

A great experience (English student)

It would have been better if some of the other students had more work based experience but the experience of the presenters did make up for this (English student)

Overall how would you rate the programme as a learning experience?



Representative comments:

All the good and bad things give a good learning experience (Estonian student)

As I expected before, there should have been more equality between the project partners (Estonian student)

It is always good to learn new things (Estonian students)

There should be more international studies like this (Finnish student)

Excellent. The intensive nature of the programme was useful (English student)

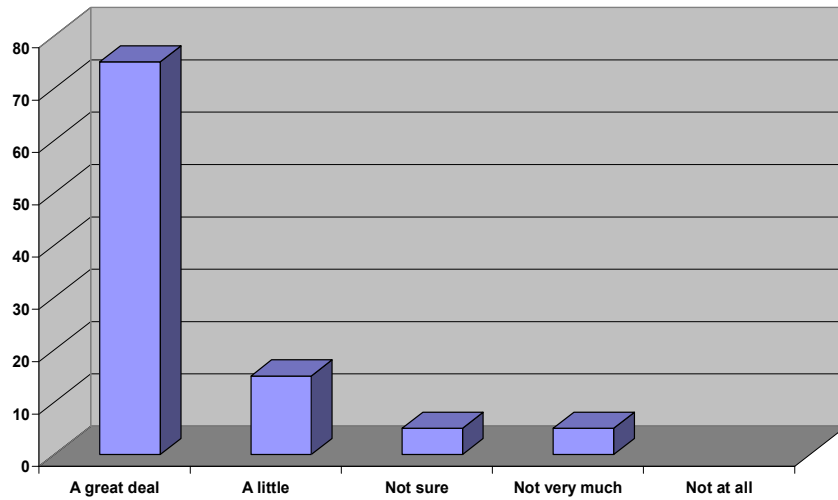
10 days continuous study! Maybe could have had more free time (English student)

Looking forward to next year! (English student)

Not an opportunity that would be available in any other way (English student)

A great experience. Lots and lots to take in - perhaps too intense for a human brain - however extremely useful (English student)

To what extent did you find the experience an enjoyable one?



Representative comments:

The people were great (Estonian student)

A great deal and even a bit more (Finnish student)

It's lovely to travel but especially nice to share experiences with students and professionals from different countries (English student)

Because we were studying so much there was little opportunity for socialising. (English student)

Good fun too. Really enjoyed meeting Finns and Estonians (English student)

The themed evenings were fantastic - and consolidated learning (English student)

People were fantastic - both staff and students (English student)

How might future programmes be improved:

Other active learning methods than discussion (groupwork, panel discussion etc) because the lectures are exhausting. More breaks between lectures (2 - 2.5 hours long) (Estonian student)

More Estonian input; more small groups to ensure equal input (Estonian student)

More case studies and practical stuff (Estonian student)

More activities and interactive environment (Finnish student)

Longer to get even more out of it (Finnish student)

More lectures from Estonian lecturers or professionals (English student)

Improved accommodation (English student)

All students staying in same accommodation - with better accommodation. Visits to probation and reformatory (English student)

Other choices of accommodation - with option to pay differential (English student)

More visits - and better accommodation - affects learning. More free time (English student)

Other comments:

Discussions could be better directed and accommodation surprising compared with that last year in Estonia (Estonian student)

Cultural evenings at the beginning of the programme to improve interaction early on (Estonian student)

It should definitely happen again but with the hostel closer to the lectures (Estonian student)

A very good programme (Finnish student)

A particular thanks to Erja, Henna and Katri for making this a very enjoyable and stress free experiences (English student)

Provide handouts of slides before presentation so non English students can prepare in advance (English student)

Our hosts were second to none (English student)

All in all an excellent initiative (English student)

Overall a wonderful and unique experience (English student)